

RECORD IS BAD

Financial Institutions Are Robbed Every Day, Says Expert

High Living, Fast Women and Speculation Chiefly to Blame

Boston.—It is only a defalcation of magnitude that attracts more than local attention.

When the wrongdoing of President Frank Hipple caused the \$7,000,000 crash of the Real Estate Trust company, of Philadelphia; when Paul O. Stensland wrecked the Milwaukee Avenue State bank of Chicago through his misappropriation of \$1,500,000 and when, more recently, Treasurer William F. Walker disappeared with \$665,000 of securities belonging to the Savings Bank of New Britain, Conn.—in a big case of this kind the busy world pauses to gasp at the enormity of the crime and to bestow a fleeting pity upon the victims.

Now and then a remarkable theft attracts more than ordinary attention because of the difficulties overcome. Only a short time ago it was announced that \$173,000 in currency had been stolen from the United States sub-treasury at Chicago under circumstances that baffled a score of keen-witted secret service men.

But, as Pierre Jay, commissioner of banking of Massachusetts, has pointed out, there are many embezzlements that are never known by the public. The amounts involved are made good by relatives and friends, or are quietly charged up to profit and loss.

"There are three embezzlements where one is reported," said the head of a surety company the other day. "Personally, I believe financial institutions are being robbed every day."

This seems serious; it is serious, but one should remember that there are a great number of institutions handling the people's money.

Did you know that on September 1 last there were in the United States 6,137 national banks—an increase of 4,065 since 1890—8,862 state banks, 742 loan and trust companies, 1,319 savings banks and 929 private banks?

Causes of Dishonesty. But what causes dishonesty among employees and officials of financial institutions?

Why do men, occupying positions of trust and honor, who are generally respected, stand high, often in the church, are morally clean, so far as known, with families and pleasant

In nearly every instance one or more of these reasons has caused the downfall.

First of all, it is the desire to get rich quick which lures men to their fall. Gambling, whether it be on the races or in the stock markets, has been the cause of many a man's ruin. Having access to money, the bank president or employee who has gotten himself into a difficulty takes a surreptitious loan, fully intending to pay it back; failure follows failure, loss comes after loss, until at last there is the inevitable discovery.

"In every case which I have investigated," said an officer of a surety company, "I have found a woman at the bottom. Although the man stole the money to gamble or speculate, when a searching inquiry is made we always find a woman who was extravagant, with whom the man had become infatuated, or a wife who nagged him for more than he could afford."

"Men frequently embezzle to invest in schemes which they are led to believe will turn out well. They are probably married and desire to get ahead socially. They need money to do it."

"Their homes must be well furnished, their wives beautifully dressed. The situation goes down to take the risk. Without any thought of being dishonest they use the bank's money for personal investments."

"With a man who becomes infatuated with a dashing woman the end comes more quickly. There is a rapid pace, with motor cars, theaters, cafes and other places of entertainment. He loses his head, loses all sense of discretion. Recently an official of a large Chicago bank threw \$20 bills to a ballet dancer on a theater stage. This excited suspicion. His accounts were investigated, and today he is serving in prison."

Thefts of "Big Men." The majority of bank thefts, according to bonding concerns, are by employees of the institution—cashiers, tellers, clerks. More money, however, is usually stolen by dishonest presidents or other officers. The aggregate

amount of money which surety companies of the country are called upon to make good is said to be \$400,000 a month.

An embezzlement, according to the representative of a surety company, is reported in Philadelphia every two weeks. The average is said to be proportionately larger in New York and Chicago.

The fascination of staking money, the zest of uncertainty, as well as the possibility of winning big stakes, tempt clerks to speculate. While the bank president may be taking plunges in stocks and sustaining heavy losses, the employee may be playing the races or taking chances in the bucket shops. Both lead to ruin.

Methods of Peculation. Methods of peculating are many. One of the most common among employees is to falsify deposit slips and

ing if you give him a chance. Place your money in his hands and he is sure to run away with it if the way is open.

"Suppose you are carrying in your vaults a lot of fraudulent paper, which on its face appears to be all straight, how is any bank examiner going to discover it? It is absolutely impossible for him to prove the genuineness or falseness of every signature on the paper that is shown him as securities held by the bank as collateral for loans. He must simply take them to be what they appear to be on the face."

"The state bank examination law is all right, and it is just as efficiently administered as the national bank law. It is not so much a change in the law regarding examinations we want as a law regarding the incorporation of banks."

"It is much too easy to incorporate



THE FIRST STEP
TRYING TO RECOVER
SPECULATING DRINK AND WOMEN CONSPIRE TO RUIN SAVED BY BANKERS AND BANK EMPLOYEES EACH YEAR

deposit books of persons who have dominant accounts and to falsify entries of cash taken in.

Men "higher up" can make loans on bogus securities and substitute "memos" or notes showing false loans. They usually have access to the vaults where money and bonds are deposited.

Although there is usually some apparent reason why men become defaulter, sometimes it is impossible to find the cause; it seems incomprehensible to the men themselves.

Concerning such cases, the president of a prominent surety company has made an interesting statement:

"Presidents of banks and trust companies who sometimes involve their institutions for large sums are often condemned for dishonesty when their real fault is bad judgment. It may be that the president has conducted his bank on conservative lines until he is implicitly trusted. The board of directors gladly trusts its own responsibilities upon his shoulders and leaves him to run the business."

In Toils of Promoter.

"Presently along comes a promoter with more audacity than judgment. He presents a scheme that is daring, but still within bounds, offers the bank extra high interest, and perhaps a bonus besides; he gets the loan and pays it."

"The venture is repeated until the president is dazzled by the brilliance of the promoter's genius. At last a note cannot be taken up when due. The venture may be legitimate, but ill judged. It is necessary to advance more money to safeguard the original investment."

"Here the president makes his fatal misstep. Instead of laying the whole matter before the board and confessing his original mistake, he makes an additional loan on his own responsibility and is still more deeply involved. By this time he is ashamed to tell the board of directors, and so he goes on getting deeper and deeper in the mire until the inevitable crash."

How to Prevent Looting.

Orson Smith, one of Chicago's best known bankers, after the Stensland exposure, declared that a new law of incorporation was necessary to prevent the looting of banks.

"The state bank examinations are all right," he said. "No law you can frame will prevent a thief from steal-

banks now. The law should be particularly regarding the incorporators and the nature of the securities they offer in the first instance. Once they get started it is too late to correct the evils which should be prevented at the beginning. If you want reform, that is where it should begin."

Easy to Start Bank.

Ease with which a bank may be started was illustrated at Middleport, Ohio, last fall. The president of an institution there disappeared and \$115,000 of the bank's money was found missing.

This man, it was stated, at one time started a national bank in that town, but this was closed and its accounts settled. Then the banker induced a retired clergyman to enter business with him and open a private bank. The clergyman converted his property into cash and invested \$6,000. For a time the new institution seemed to flourish, but one morning it was found that the president was missing. In the vaults were only \$3,000 in cash and paper worth less than \$50,000. The bank building was found to be mortgaged to its full value.

Fever of Getting Rich.

"What remedy would I suggest for the dishonest man in banks?" said a man who has made a study of financial conditions. "There is one remedy among the big men—an unfailing sense of honor, integrity of character, pure, clean, moral lives."

"But the fever of getting rich has inflamed the country. Men are impatient to get money; in fact, they do not care to wait for good investments to work out slowly. They wish to plunge, to go headlong into any promising scheme."

"It must be remembered that although the amounts of bank thefts have been increasing this does not mean that the percentage of such crimes is increasing per thousand of population. Besides, there is a great deal more money in banks now than 20 years ago."

"The stupendous figures of defalcations in this country, however, indicate a state of very loose morals in our business life. Then, too, with the desire to get rich there is a growing desire for expensive hobbies and expensive living. The rising financial fever is accompanied by a fever of corresponding gayety. And a gay life costs money."

J. H. ECKELS DIES IN HIS SLEEP.

HIS PASSING AWAY DISCOVERED BY THE BUTLER.

Domestic Occurs On Eve of a Breakfast Party—Had Planned to Entertain a Number of Friends.

Chicago, April 15.—Jas. H. Eckels, president of the Commercial National bank of this city and former controller of the currency, died at his home here of heart disease.

The death of Mr. Eckels occurred apparently while he was asleep in his bed. The fact that he was dead was discovered by a butler, Frank Evans, who entered Mr. Eckels' room after hearing a telephone within ring continuously without receiving an answer.

Thinking that Mr. Eckels had not been awakened, Evans entered and found Mr. Eckels apparently asleep.

The butler called to him, and, getting no response, sought to arouse him and found that he was dead.

Other members of the household were summoned and Dr. Frank S. Churchill was hurriedly called.

Dr. Churchill arrived within a short time and after an examination gave it as his opinion that Mr. Eckels had been dead for some hours.

Dr. John H. Murphy, the Eckels family physician, was also notified, and responded promptly.

Mrs. Eckels and her daughter Phoebe, 18 years old, are in Paris, where the latter is attending a school for girls.

They have been abroad since last autumn, and planned to return to Chicago within a few weeks. They were at once communicated with by cable. It is understood that they will sail for New York immediately.

The death of Mr. Eckels came on the eve of a breakfast party which he had planned for a number of his friends and relatives.

Judge K. M. Landis, of the federal district court; Mrs. Landis, Judge and Mrs. E. H. Gary, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. George M. Eckels, brother and sister-in-law of the deceased, and others were to have been his guests.

James A. Eckels, of Princeton, father of James H. Eckels, died two months ago.

On the morning of the death of the elder Eckels the son was a host of former President Cleveland.

The former president and Mr. Eckels were at breakfast when the news of the father's death was received at the Eckels residence.

ROCKED BY EARTHQUAKE.

Inhabitants Terrified By Shocks and Town is in Total Darkness.

City of Mexico, April 15.—An earthquake lasting four and a half minutes started this city. The earth rocked in a long, swinging motion, terrifying the inhabitants, but doing no damage, so far as can be learned, in this city.

Telegraph wires were put out of commission, and in a short time the city was in darkness owing to the failure of the electric lights.

One wall of the Associated Press office was cracked from floor to ceiling.

The asphalt on a paved corner on Cinco de Mayo street, one of the principal business streets of the city, was cracked open for a distance of ten yards.

The shock is pronounced the heaviest here in ten years. People are thronging the streets, many having fled from their beds and dwellings in their night robes.

MANY HOMELESS BY FIRE.

Flames Sweep Westwego, Opposite New Orleans.

New Orleans, April 15.—Six hundred people were rendered homeless by a fire which swept the town of Westwego, situated in the Mississippi river opposite New Orleans.

In all 42 buildings, including a Presbyterian church, the town hall, the postoffice and a number of stores, were destroyed.

The loss is estimated at \$50,000, with only about \$1,000 of insurance.

Two Policemen Shot.

New York, April 14.—Policemen George M. Sechler and Alfred Selleck and Chas. Vincenzo, a young Italian, were shot and fatally wounded by Salvatore Governale in a running fight, which began in Washington square and ended in a tenement at the southwest corner of Thompson and West Third streets, Sechler dying. Governale, immediately after his arrest, was hurried to St. Vincent's hospital, where he was identified by the three dying men.

Boiler Burst Killing Two Men.

Key West, Fla., April 15.—An explosion occurred on the dredger George W. Allen, engaged in work on the Florida East Coast railway here, causing the death of two Spaniards, Jose Iando and Manuel Agram, and injured eight others. The escaping steam threw three coils over the dead men.

Matador Fatally Injured By Bull.

El Paso, Tex., April 15.—In a bull fight at Juarez, El Cuco, one of the matadors was badly injured and probably fatally injured by the last bull which he attempted to kill, and five horses were killed by the bulls, the picadors all being more or less injured.

Train Held Up.

Memphis, Tenn., April 15.—Four masked men held up a train on the Lake Comorant branch of the Yazoo & Mississippi Valley railroad, near Philipp, Miss., and, securing no booty, left hurriedly.

Found Dying in Dining Room.

New York, April 15.—George Shambacher, a wealthy real estate dealer, 60, was shot and mortally wounded in the dining room of his home on East Forty-fourth street. His family believe that a burglar, surprised by Shambacher, shot him.

Cut His Throat With Razor.

East St. Louis, Ill., April 15.—Dependent because his wife had left him, Charles Lousha, a Hungarian, cut his throat with a razor and then smoked cigars for two hours, until he fell dead from loss of blood.

Our Pattern Department

A Dainty Blouse.



Pattern No. 5783.—A modish blouse waist that is capable of effective elaboration is here shown in a development of white china silk and all-over lace. Deep tucks contribute to the front fullness, and tabs of the lace edged by a tiny frill of valenciennes add greatly to the dressy effect of the mode. The long sleeves terminate in deep cuffs, while those in elbow lengths are finished by frills of the lace. Taffeta, batiste, pongee and linen are all suitable to the design. For 36-inch bust measure two and five-eighths yards of 36-inch material will be required. Sizes for 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure.

This pattern will be sent to you on receipt of 10 cents. Address all orders to the Pattern Department of this paper. Be sure to give size and number of pattern wanted. For convenience, write your order on the following coupon:

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A CHARMING LITTLE DRESS.



Pattern No. 5780.—This pretty little frock is unusually simple and attractive and well suited to all the fine washable fabrics, such as lawn, batiste, linen and chambray. The blouse waist is mounted on a body lining, and a standing collar affords neck completion unless a square outline is desired, for which provision is made in the pattern. The modish elbow sleeves are finished by a band of insertion, which also is used for the belt and for trimming the square neck. The full straight skirt is simply hemmed and gathered to the waist. Cashmere, albatross, delaine and pongee are all suitable to the mode. For a child of eight years three yards of 36-inch material will be required. Sizes for 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 years.

This pattern will be sent to you on receipt of 10 cents. Address all orders to the Pattern Department of this paper. Be sure to give size and number of pattern wanted. For convenience, write your order on the following coupon:

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WHISKY'S EFFECT.

Does Not Give Strength to the Body.

Some people, when tired, take intoxicating liquors, feel less weary and so think the drink has given them strength. What the alcohol in the liquor really does is to deaden the feeling of tiredness. When the deadening effect has passed away they are more tired than ever. Even Sir Michael Foster, who is not generally considered a particular friend of the teetotal movement, says: "It (a glass of beer, or wine or spirits) does not give any fresh strength; it whips up the strength given by real food." Sir Frederick Treves says: "As a work producer, alcohol is exceedingly extravagant, and, like other extravagant measures, it is apt to lead to a physical bankruptcy. It is well known that troops cannot march on alcohol. I was with the relief column that moved on to Ladysmith. It was an extremely trying time, apart from the heat of the weather. In that column of some 30,000 men, the first who dropped out were not the tall men, or the short men, or the big men, or the little men—but the drinkers, and they dropped out as clearly as if they had been labeled with a big letter on their backs."

Consistent Temperance Reformer.

The late Archbishop Temple was an ardent temperance reformer. He grasped the true significance of the temperance movement in a way that gave him an unbounded confidence in its ultimate triumph and an unflinching zeal in the prosecution of the work. His thought and practice were so perfectly harmonious as to command them to every right thinking man. His own views in this respect are clearly set forth in his own words: "I have been for years a teetotaler, because I have long ago learned the difference in dealing with my fellowmen between 'Come along' and 'Go along.' I have long ago learned that if you want to lead men you must put yourself at their head, and that it is no use pointing out the path and say: 'I am going a road that is good for you, but you go the road that is good for you.' If you really desire to lead them, you must lead them in person and not simply in precept."

Doctors Against Alcohol.

"L'Abstinence," a French temperance journal, has done good service to the cause it advocates by publishing the testimonies against alcohol given by medical men of eminence. They are quoted from the French journal "Matin," which has placed them before the public with the view of forwarding the movement in France against abstinence, and in the hope that ultimately the goal of prohibition may be reached. The first cited is Prof. Debove, doyen of the medical faculty, and his words are an epitome of the rest: "I have fought all my life against alcoholism; it is the great evil of our epoch. . . . To raise the tax on the drinks that produce these evils is good; to suppress their consumption altogether would be better."

Temperance in Great Britain.

At the great British national temperance convention held in St. Andrew's hall, Glasgow, recently, about 2,000 delegates being present, strong resolutions were passed in favor of "local option," and others, even more forceful, against any form of governmental supervision or proprietorship. There has never been held a convention in any part of Great Britain so varied in its constituent elements and so united in its aim. Conservatives, Home Rulers, Liberals and Socialists sat side by side. Dissenters and members of the "Church of England" worked hand in hand. A majority of the members were laboring men, now a few reformed men, joined with these were officers of civil municipalities and pastors of large city churches.

Crusade Against Tobacco.

The crusade against tobacco as well as liquor is spreading. The Syracuse university distributes yearly about 1,000 scholarships, but Chancellor Day has announced that none of these scholarships will be given to students who use tobacco or attend theaters. He declares that: "Young men who can afford to pay for needless luxuries and indulgences cannot afford to pay for their tuition." He concludes by making this pertinent statement: "The man who uses tobacco is a fool, at least in this particular. He ought to take better care of his nerves and make a cleaner exhibit of himself."

Temperance Pledge in England.

The pledge has not been made the weapon of temperance evangelism in America so much as in England. There seems to be a larger emphasis in this country upon legislation and prohibitory measures than upon the reclamation of the individual. No doubt the anti-alcohol movements of America are seeking the idea nearer its center than it has yet been conceived in Germany and the United Kingdom. The eradication of the saloon is a root-and-branch method that assures results once it has been made practicable by the support and endorsement of the electorate.

French and English Husbands.

When an English wife has hysterics, says a writer, her husband is immediately bored and goes to his club, or else he says: "You are not very well, my dear. Shall I send for a doctor?" The Frenchman, an contraire, has hysterics, too. The Frenchman may fight with his wife, love her, hate her, kiss her or kill her, but in different to her, superior to her, never!

BABY ELEPHANT AT PLAY.

Fun One Six Months Old Had in a Malay Jungle.

Mr. Burgess had most kindly sent back government elephants for the luggage, and on their return proposed that we should take them on to the next post, Grik, where others could probably be hired from the natives. This we agreed to do, and on a clear, sunny morning, which contrasted cheerfully with the previous downpour, set out with five elephants and a baby elephant accompanying its mother, writes J. C. Grew in Badminton Magazine, describing a journey through the Malay jungle.

A source of continuous amusement to us were the antics of the baby elephant. You have seen a kitten career madly around after its tail or a puppy tumble over itself in paroxysms of playfulness, but have you witnessed an elephant at the tender age of six months expressing its uncontrollable spirit? I assure you there is nothing more exuberantly funny.

To begin with, he suddenly charges

a bamboo thicket, butting down great trees as carelessly as though they were cornstalks; these fall across the way together with a small avalanche of rotten boughs, placing your life distinctly in jeopardy and causing you to wonder anxiously whether in the event of a dearth of bamboo you yourself may not be selected as a substitute.

Tired of this pastime, you will observe him surreptitiously filling his trunk with the semi-liquid mud by the roadside, which he appears to have swallowed until a sudden carefully aimed jet covers you from head to foot. The next moment he is trotting docilely by his mother's side, his whole being radiating innocence and defying calumny.

Perhaps the most amusing episode in our baby's infinite variety of entertainment was once when fording a brook he slipped on the muddy bank and landed on his back in midstream, where he lay, with his legs waving absurdly in the air, as helpless as an overturned beetle; the fond parent, seeing his predicament, was obliged to return and support him until he could regain his feet.

GAUDY FUNERALS IN SPAIN.

Much Pomp and Expense Attached to Being Buried Properly.

Getting buried in Spain, especially in a large city like Madrid, costs a great deal of money. To begin with, there is a huge black carriage, with enormous C springs, made up of a single flat platform designed to support the casket.

This is covered, but it is not inclosed with glass as the funeral coaches here. It is open on all sides. There are four huge black plumes which decorate the carriage. Wreaths hang on the four posts of the platform.

The wagon is drawn by any number of horses. The favorite number is ten. They are harnessed in pairs. It gives a sort of tallyho effect. All the horses carry huge nodding plumes on the head, fixed in the harness.

To walk alongside the horses and in the rear there are mutes wearing black knee breeches, with black stockings and long black shodderly coats. They wear black three-cornered hats and wigs of white, with pigstails.

It is the custom to keep the catafalque waiting outside the door, with the casket lying on it. The men passing in the street all remove their hats. Many go up and look at the date of death and the age and most say a sympathetic word.

There are fully as many carriages as at the funerals of the poor here in this city. When all preparations have been made, the procession sets off. The hearse leads off and progress is made in the city at a snail's pace. If the way is muddy, as is not unusual, the mutes walking alongside get splashed from foot to head with the sticky, disagreeable Madrid mud.

When the procession gets into the outskirts of the town there is a change. The mutes generally pile up behind on the carriages and by the time the cemetery is reached the procession has lost something of its dignity. This may be imagined from the fact that some of the mutes are clinging to the straps in back of the coffin and laughing and jesting as they jolt along.

Such a funeral will cost very close to \$1,000, and that is not considered much.